By email

February 28, 2019

Education Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building, Room 3100
Hartford, CT 06106
edtestimony@cga.ct.gov

Re: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874

Dear Education Committee Members:

As parents of a public school student, we strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

We oppose it because of the following:

- The bills would prevent Connecticut Public Schools from addressing and catering to specific needs of students in the diverse communities the way current school districts do, resulting in ineffictive education system;
- The regionalization would result in Connecticut losing a number of top national rated school districs, which would adversely impact the state's appeal for families and business (and tax revenues in the long-run);
- The larger, reorganized school districts would be at risk of losing the quality of education due to their size and complexity;
- The regionalization would result in job losses among Connecticut Public School employees, which would impact our state economy;
- The reginalization would not equate to integration and diversity. The regionalization would focus only on the financial aspect of the school districts, and not socioeconomic or cultural integration.

We hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

Sincerely,

Yanina Dusheyko Dmitri Ponomarev 293 Sturges Ridge Rd Wilton, CT 06897